



Public Affairs
Section

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The U.S. Government Mobilizes Assistance for Victims of the Tsunami

In support of the Tsunami relief effort in Indonesia, the U.S. government through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) continues to work with its local and international partners to get immediate relief and rehabilitation assistance to the people affected in Indonesia.

Since January 7, USAID has provided approximately \$8 million to continue to quickly respond to the needs of people affected by the December 26 earthquake and tsunami. On January 10, \$5 million was provided for immediate relief and rehabilitation projects, such as health, water and sanitation projects, cash-for-work programs, short-term employment schemes, and community-based infrastructure activities. In addition, USAID provided \$908,942 to Save the Children for emergency response activities and \$221,375 to Church World Service (CWS) for psychosocial support for children in Aceh Province. \$249,985 was provided to World Vision to provide shelter and household kits. Funds are also being provided for the Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU) to establish and staff a "WHO Reference Diagnostic Laboratory" to be located at the Governor's Hospital in Banda Aceh. Ideally, the Government of Indonesia will take over operations for this lab in the near future. USAID has also provided \$1.5 million to UNICEF for child protection and psycho-social activities in Aceh Province. Various other small grants were provided to implement health and water/sanitation improvement activities and to establish four mobile health clinics.

Last week, USAID also provided \$300,000 to International Medical Corps (IMC) to dispatch a team of 25 to 30 medical personnel and logistics coordinators to provide emergency service in Aceh Province. The team has arrived in Jakarta and will depart for in the next few days.

To date, the U.S. Government has provided more than \$28.9 million to support emergency relief activities and the provision of food, water and relief supplies for the population affected in Indonesia. In addition, through USAID, the U.S. has provided more than \$16.4 million for regional response efforts, much of which will support relief efforts in Indonesia. Regional efforts include \$5 million to World Food Program for regional air support and \$3 million to U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees to implement emergency shelter programs in affected countries.

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